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PG&E Conducting Helicopter and Ground Patrols of Electric Towers and Poles in Portions of Santa Clara County to Improve Public Safety Power Shutoff Events

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, Calif. — Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) will be conducting helicopter and ground inspections of our electric towers and poles in parts of Santa Clara County on May 31, June 1, and June 2, to prepare for potential future Public Safety Power Shutoff events and to enhance safety and efficiency during actual events.

As a last resort to keep customers safe, PG&E turns off power during high winds to prevent a wildfire when fire risk is high. This is called a [Public Safety Power Shutoff](#) (PSPS). Pre-PSPS flights are designed to gather information that helps PG&E understand the amount of time it will take to safely complete patrols when power is turned off and the timing for restoring electric service to customers.

During the pre-PSPS inspections, helicopters will fly low, roughly 100 feet, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the following areas:

- **May 31:** East Hills in San Jose, Milpitas and surrounding border communities.
- **June 1:** Los Gatos and neighboring hills.
- **June 2:** Northern Santa Clara County – Cupertino, Mountain View and Sunnyvale.

TO BE CLEAR, THIS IS NOT A PSPS AND POWER WILL NOT BE INTERRUPTED DURING THE FLIGHTS OR GROUND PATROLS.

We do encourage our customers to be prepared for the possibility of actual PSPS events in the future. High winds can cause tree branches and debris to contact energized electric lines, damage our equipment and cause a wildfire. As a result, we may need to turn off power during severe weather conditions for public safety. The sole focus of a PSPS is to keep our customers safe.

We are working year-round to make our system safer and more resilient, and to improve PSPS events for our customers and communities. California continues to experience an increase in wildfire risk and a longer wildfire season. PSPS is a necessary tool as a last resort.

We know Public Safety Power Shutoff outages are disruptive and customers need information as early as possible. To help customers plan and prepare for a Public Safety Power Shutoff, we

will send alerts by email, phone call or text as early as possible both day and night, as needed, before, during and after a PSPS event.

During an actual PSPS event, crews will inspect de-energized lines utilizing aircraft, vehicles and foot patrols to identify and repair damage before restoring power.

We remind our customers to have a plan for extreme weather events and to ensure we have their updated contact information (www.pge.com/mywildfirealerts) to allow us to send them important alerts and updates about a potential PSPS.

For questions, customers are encouraged to call 1-800-PGE-5000 or visit www.pge.com/wildfiresafety.

About PG&E

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation (NYSE:PCG), is a combined natural gas and electric utility serving more than 16 million people across 70,000 square miles in Northern and Central California. For more information, visit pge.com and pge.com/news.

